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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

AKRAM ALI SALMAN
XUEJUN ZHAO
KURT O. TAYLOR
STEPHEN G. BEEBE

Examiner: Laura M. Schillinger

Group Art Unit: 2813

Serial No.: 10/664,665

Att'y Docket: 2000.111200/DE0190

Filed: September 18, 2003

Customer No.: 23720

For: METHOD FOR DETERMINING THE
RELIABILITY OF DIELECTRIC
LAYERS

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT DATED NOVEMBER 8, 2004**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as "FIRST CLASS MAIL" addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 3rd day of December, 2004.

Mary Paul
Signature

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 8, 2004, for which the one-month date for response is December 8, 2004.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Director is authorized to deduct said fees from Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. Deposit Account No. 01-0365/H2022. In the event the monies in that account are insufficient, the Director is authorized to withdraw funds from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2000.111200.

In the Office Action, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement and identified seven alleged species. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's election requirement is

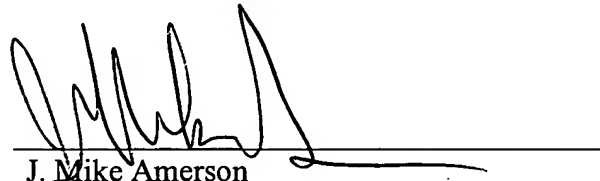
improper. The assignee of the present application has paid a substantial filing fee for this application. It is believed that the various "species" identified by the Examiner are not legitimate species designations. The alleged species identified by the Examiner are not so unrelated as to make prior art searching unduly burdensome. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the restriction requirement is improper for at least this reason. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

Should the Examiner maintain the restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute claims 1-18.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON
CUSTOMER NO. 23720

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Mike Amerson", is written over a horizontal line.

Date: December 3, 2004

J. Mike Amerson
Reg. No. 35,426
10333 Richmond, Suite 1100
Houston, Texas 77042
(713) 934-4055
(713) 934-7011 (facsimile)

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS